



Galapagos Islands

Adventure • Sustainability • Culture

ECUADOR 14-DAY

HIGHLIGHTS:

- ▶ LNT Awareness training
- ▶ NCOAE Core Curriculum
- ▶ Gain experience in international travel, risk management, environmental studies, plant and animal identification, outdoor leadership, and more

WHY TAKE THIS COURSE?

- ▶ Develop backcountry skills
- ▶ Advance your knowledge of environmental sustainability and outdoor education curriculum — while learning in Ecuador's wild, beautiful places
- ▶ Discover which areas of outdoor and environmental education are best suited to your strengths
- ▶ Acquire the skills needed to travel in pristine destinations around the world!

WHERE YOU'LL BE:

- ▶ Quito, Ecuador
- ▶ Galapagos National Park
- ▶ Cristobal Island
- ▶ Floreana Island
- ▶ Santa Cruz Island



NCOAE The National Center for
OUTDOOR & ADVENTURE
EDUCATION

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** Flights to/from destination not included in tuition.
For complete itinerary details, see reverse side ▶*



ECUADOR — GALAPAGOS ISLANDS

ITINERARY *(Subject to change)*

- ▶ **Day 1: After a morning airport pickup, we'll drive 30 minutes outside of Ecuador's capital to our basecamp, located in the foothills of the Andes** — Your group will enjoy spending its first in-country days based at Palugo farm, a permaculture project integrating sustainability, community, and adventure living in the outskirts of Quito. Here we rise with the sun to help with daily tasks that sustain life on the farm, such as splitting firewood for cooking, cleaning, gardening, milking, and animal work.
- ▶ **Days 2 – 4: Introduction to basic camp craft, environmental sustainability, and the NCOAE core curriculum.** While at the basecamp we'll learn about permaculture and sustainability in a mountain environment, while continuing to help with various farm activities. Participate in a master class about Galapagos' Ecosystem and Human history. As we prepare for our expedition we'll focus on building our community and participate in Leave No Trace (LNT) training, expedition planning, preparation, dehydrating food, backcountry navigation skills, and packing gear needed for our adventure. We will use these days to introduce you to the NCOAE Curriculum, 'the First 48' and our 'Ed Groups' — the most important technical and interpersonal skills you will need to know for your expedition.
- ▶ **Days 5 – 11: Travel to Galapagos Islands.** Visit three islands in this unique archipelago; San Cristobal, Floreana, and Santa Cruz. Guided by locals, you'll explore areas of the Galapagos

National Park, while hiking in the middle of big cacti, snorkeling with sharks, and watching the tame blue-footed boobies flying around. As the days go you'll gain a bigger understanding of Galapagos conservation issues, introduced species, massive tourism and increased population; and we'll discuss and share ideas of possible solutions and initiatives that can be made to maintain this unique place for the future generations of life – human and wildlife- to come.

The landscape and wildlife will provide a dramatic canvas for your learning experience. You may see pink flamingos, green sea turtles, Darwin finches, penguins, sea lions and other wildlife during your trek. It's during these days that you'll be able to hone your skills and develop your newfound outdoor leadership style. All the while, you'll be practicing the principles of LNT, map and compass navigation, plant and animal identification and backcountry cooking — eating wonderful food you'll prepare. Participate in community service, while travelling the wonders of the islands.

- ▶ **Day 12 – 13: De-issue, gear cleanup, and Closing Circle.** Return to Palugo Farm base camp where we'll check our gear in and debrief the course. Before departing, we will celebrate our individual and group accomplishments and share a one-of-a-kind closing circle — a fitting transition to begin your journey as an outdoor leader.
- ▶ **Day 14: Departure from Quito, Ecuador.**